



Brookside Primary School

Learning for Life

Newsletter Summer Term 2026 - Issue 5

5th June 2026

www.brookside.oxon.sch.uk

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are looking forward to our sports days next week. KS2 have their event on Monday morning, KS1 on Tuesday morning and EYFS on Wednesday (Class EC) and Thursday (Class VL) morning. As the weather is going to be hot and sunny all children need to bring a hat, water bottle and have suncream applied before coming to school. Thank you to FoBS for providing a drinks station for the children.

Festival of Voices

On Wednesday, the Brookside choir attended the annual Festival of Voices performance at the beautiful Dorchester Abbey with five other schools in Oxfordshire, where they rehearsed and then performed to an audience, including their parents, Mr Watt and the Mayor of Bicester! The children have worked incredibly hard to learn all the songs and sung their hearts out! Well done to choir on a stellar performance. Thank you to Miss Young and Mrs Wesselbaum for taking the choir and to Mrs Rudge for her hard work throughout the year leading the choir.



Class Organisation for 2026/2027

The class structure for 2026/2027 has been finalised and there are some changes to this year. Please see below for details:

The Canopy Miss Swan
EYFS—Miss Carter and Mrs Lewis
Year 1 Miss Hinton
Year1/2 Mrs Baker
Year 2 Miss Spearman
Year 3 Miss Young
Year 3/4 Mrs Duncan/Mrs Cooper
Year 4 Ms Mooney/Mrs Smith
Year 5 Miss Daulton/Ms Welby
Year 5/6 Mr Harrison
Year 6 Mrs Taylor

Great Science Share at Science Oxford

Well done to Catherine, Ely, Teddy and Leanne who won the school Great Science Share competition. On Tuesday 16th July they went to Science Oxford to present their poster to other schools, as well as representatives from Diabetes UK and Diamond Technologies. They were great communicators and showed scientific knowledge to explain their ideas. Well done!



Bicester Food Bank Cake Sale

Our recent cake sale in support of Bicester Foodbank's 20th anniversary was a great success, raising an impressive £145.80. A wonderful variety of homemade treats attracted strong support, and we thank everyone who baked, donated, and purchased. Your generosity will make a real difference to families in need within our local community. Congratulations to Hallie in Y6 who won the prize for the best decorated cake.



Brookside is able to provide food bank vouchers for families when they are in need. Please speak to your child's class teacher, the school office or another member of staff if you need a foodbank voucher.

Bicester Junior Park Run

Bicester is lucky to have a Junior Park Run at Whitelands Farm sports field available to all 4 to 14 year olds. It would be great to hear about Brookside children joining in on this volunteer led fitness event. More information can be found here -

www.parkrun.org.uk/whitelandsfarm-juniors/

Summer Reading Challenge 2026: Read to the Beat!

We are delighted to encourage all our children to take part in this year's [Summer Reading Challenge](#), Read to the Beat, running in Oxfordshire libraries from 4 July to 5 September. This exciting national initiative, led by The Reading Agency, has teamed up with Universal Music Group artists this year, using the power of music to inspire children to develop a love of reading. At a time when reading for pleasure is declining—particularly among boys—and with 1 in 4 children not yet reading well by age 11, this challenge offers a fun and motivating way to keep reading skills sharp over the summer.

The challenge is completely free and takes place at your local [Oxfordshire library](#). Children set their own goals, discover new books, and enjoy rewards along the way—all while building confidence and enjoyment in reading. Last year saw over 7,800 children across Oxfordshire take part, with more than half completing the challenge. Libraries also welcomed hundreds of new young members. Let's aim to build on that success this year!

Families said: "The Summer Reading Challenge has turned my child into a reader overnight!"

"It makes reading extra fun... it's been brilliant—their reading has come on loads."

We strongly encourage all children to join in, visit their local library, and discover the joy of reading this summer. Happy reading!

Guess how many sweets in the jar—Monday 29th June to Saturday 4th July

Brookside School Council are happy to announce a new summer fundraising event. 'Guess the number of sweets in the jar!' Think you can guess how many sweets are in the jar? The closest guess will win the jar!

Each guess costs just 50p. One guess only, with all proceeds going towards Brookside School.

If you would like to have a go, School Councillors will visit your classroom with the jar on the dates below to collect your guess and 50p.

Monday 29th June

Wednesday 1st July

Friday 3rd July

You will also be able to have another chance to win a jar at the fete on Saturday 4th July. The winner will be announced on Monday 6th July.

Drowning Prevention

Children in KS2 had an assembly this week led by two members of staff from the Leisure Centre who spoke to the children about the importance of being safe around water. Children were taught about being SAFE when around water, particularly at the beach on holiday.

S – Stay between the red and yellow flags

A – Always read the signs and ask lifeguards if you need help

F – For help wave your arms and shout out loud

E – Everyone should swim with someone and never alone.

We have some leaflets in the entrance hall with a colouring competition where children could win a pair of swimming goggles if they return the completed colouring to the Leisure Centre. We also have a leaflet about swimming lessons currently available at Bicester Leisure Centre. Please come to the school office if you would like one.

Parking

We have been asked by the Sports Centre to remind parents that they should not park on yellow 'no parking' areas of their car park. They are kind enough to allow parents entry to the car park before and after school. When entering and leaving the car park please be mindful of the zebra crossings and that there will be children arriving for after school swimming lessons.

Safeguarding

As we are now approaching the longest day, we know children are playing outside their homes more often in the evenings. It is important to have a conversation with your child about where they are allowed to go, what they are allowed to do and what they should do if they do not feel comfortable with something which is happening. More information from the NSPCC can be found here - <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/advice-for-families/home-alone/#ready-to-go-out>

The Big Future Survey

The Children's Commissioner wants to hear from children as part of her national survey, The Big Future.

The survey can be completed here— <http://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigfuture>. Rachel de Souza says,

'At a time of significant change for children and young people, it is more important than ever that their views are reflected in policy making. Through this survey, I can take the voices of your students directly to the centre of government'.

School Uniform at Lidl and Aldi

We know many parents are looking ahead to the next academic year and keen to access reasonably priced school uniform. Aldi's school uniform is available from 28th June with the range starting in price from £1.50 with a 'bundle' costing £5. Lidl has a similar offer with polo shirts (2 pack), sweatshirt and choice of trousers, skirt or shorts costing £5. This range is in store from Thursday 25th June. We know that these offers sell out quickly. Please remember to look at our uniform policy before making any purchases.

FoBS News

Sports Days Refreshments & Summer Raffle

During next week's Sports Days, FoBS will be selling refreshments and raffle tickets ahead of our Summer Fete. Refreshments include: tea, coffee, soft drinks, water and iced coffee.

If you would like to purchase raffle tickets in advance, please head over to:

<https://www.peoplesfundraising.com/raffle/friendsofbrooksidePTA-summer-raffle-2026>

There are some fantastic prizes available and every ticket purchased helps support the school community. With more being added everyday!

Bottle Tombola Donation – Non-School Uniform Day 3rd July

We are also collecting donations for our Bottle Tombola at the Summer Fete.

On Friday 3rd July, children can take part in Non-School Uniform Day (NSU) in exchange for bringing in a bottle donation.

This can be a bottle of anything – for example wine, fizzy drinks, squash, toiletries or other bottled items. More details will be shared soon.

Summer Fete Reminder – Saturday 4th July | 12pm–3pm

Don't forget our Summer Fete is taking place on Saturday 4th July from 12pm–3pm.

There will be: face painting, hair braiding, food and drinks, archery, axe throwing, games, local stalls selling handmade item, bouncy assault course, demonstrations from local organisations...and lots of fun to be had!

Want to Get Involved? We would love more volunteers and support.

Please contact Kirsty, Clare, Katie or Mel at chairoffobs@gmail.com, or send us a message on Facebook or Instagram

@fobsbrooksidebicester

Thanks for all your support - The FoBS family

Diary Dates

Monday 22nd June - KS2 Sports Day 9:15 a.m.

Tuesday 23rd June - KS1 Sports Day 9:15 a.m.

Wednesday 24th June - EYFS Sports Day Class **EC** 09:15 a.m.

Thursday 25th June - EYFS Sports Day Class **VL** 09:15 a.m.

Friday 3rd July—Non Uniform Day (for a donation of a bottle)

Saturday 4th July 12:00 p.m.—3:00 p.m.—FoBS Summer Fete

Friday 17th July - 9:15 a.m. Leavers' Assembly and last day of term (3:15 p.m. finish)

Monday 20th July - INSET Day (school closed to all pupils)



GUESS THE SWEETS IN THE JAR

Monday 29th June to Saturday 4th July

Brookside School Council are happy to announce a Summer fundraising event.

'Guess the number of sweets in the jar!'

Think you can guess how many sweets are in the jar?

The closest guess will win the jar!

Each guess costs just 50p. *One guess only*, with all proceeds going towards Brookside School.

If you would like to have a go, School Councillors will visit your classroom with the jar on the dates below to collect your guess and 50p.

Monday 29th June

Wednesday 1st July

Friday 3rd July

You will also be able to have another chance to win a jar at the Brookside Summer Fete on Saturday 4th July.

Winners will be announced on Monday 6th July

WEEK ONE 13th April, 4th May, 1st June, 22nd June, 13th July, 31st Aug, 2nd Sept, 12th Oct

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Margherita Pizza (Cheese & Tomato) (V, EF) Vegetable & Bean Chilli with Rice (VG) Wholemeal Egg Mayo Sandwich (V, DF) Sweetcorn & Baked Beans Lemon Oat Cookie (V, EF, DF) & Raisins	Beef Bolognese with Pasta (EF, DF) Veggie Bolognese with Pasta (VG) Jacket Potato with Cheese (V, GF, EF) or Baked Beans (VG, GF) Carrots & Green Beans Iced Sprinkle Cake (V, DF)	Roast Chicken Breast (GF, DF, EF) Quorn Roast (V, GF) Tuna & Cucumber Pasta Salad (EF, DF) Roast Potatoes, Yorkshire Pudding, Cauliflower & Peas Cherry Biscuit (V, EF)	Chicken Korma with Rice (EF, GF) Mac 'n' Cheese (V, EF) Jacket Potato with Cheese (V, GF, EF) or Baked Beans (VG, GF) Carrots & Sweetcorn Rock Cake (V) with Pineapple	Chicken Nuggets (EF, DF) Veggie Nuggets (V, EF) Breaded Salmon Wrap with Mayo & Lettuce (EF, DF) Chips or Pasta Peas & Baked Beans Vanilla Ice Cream (V, GF, EF)

WEEK TWO 20th April, 11th May, 8th June, 29th June, 20th July, 7th Sept, 28th Sept, 19th Oct

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Margherita Pizza (Cheese & Tomato) (V, EF) Sweet Potato & Chickpea Curry with Rice (V, GF, EF) Veggie Couscous Salad (VG) Sweetcorn & Baked Beans Vanilla Sponge Cake (V, DF)	Meatballs in a Tomato Sauce (GF, DF, EF) Veggie Meatballs in a Tomato Sauce (VG, GF) Baked Jacket Potato with Cheese (V, GF, EF) or Baked Beans (VG, GF) Pasta, Peas & Broccoli Chocolate Crispie Cake (V, DF, EF)	Roast Loin of Pork (GF, DF, EF) Quorn Roast (V, GF) Wholemeal Cheese & Tomato Sandwich (V, EF) Yorkshire Pudding, Roast Potatoes & Gravy Carrots & Cabbage Shortbread (V, EF, DF) with an Orange Wedge	Creamy Chicken Risotto (GF, EF) Veggie Sausage Pasta Bake (V, EF) Baked Jacket Potato with Cheese (V, GF, EF) or Baked Beans (VG, GF) Peas & Green Beans Sultana & Syrup Cookie (V, EF)	Flipper Dippers (DF, EF) Veggie Sausage Roll (V, EF) Egg Mayo & Lettuce Wrap (V, DF) French Fries or Pasta Baked Beans or Sweetcorn Strawberry Ice Cream (V, GF, EF) with Melon

WEEK THREE 27th April, 18th May, 15th June, 6th July, 14th Sept, 5th Oct

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Margherita Pizza (Cheese & Tomato) (V, EF) Spinach & Pepper Pasta (VG) Wholemeal Cheese & Cucumber Sandwich (V, EF) Sweetcorn & Baked Beans Melting Moment (V, DF, EF) with Mandarins	Chicken & Leek Pie with New Potatoes (DF, EF) Sweet & Sour Veggie Noodles (V, DF) Jacket Potato with Cheese (V, GF, EF) or Baked Beans (VG, GF) Vegetable Medley & Broccoli Cinnamon Cookie (V, EF)	Roast Gammon (GF, EF, DF) Vegetarian Quorn Roast (V, GF) Tuna & Sweetcorn Wrap (DF, EF) Roast Potatoes & Yorkshire Pudding with Gravy Savoy Cabbage & Peas Chocolate Brownie (V, DF)	Pork Sausages with Gravy (DF, EF) Veggie Sausage with Gravy (VG, GF) Baked Jacket Potato with Cheese (V, GF, EF) or Baked Beans (VG, GF) Mashed Potatoes (GF, EF) Or Pasta (EF, DF) Carrots & Cauliflower Crunchy Cornflake Cookie (EF, DF)	Fish Fingers (DF, EF) Cream Cheese & Broccoli Pinwheel (V, EF) Veggie Pasta Salad (VG) Chips or Pasta Peas & Baked Beans Banana Ice Lolly (V, GF, EF)

Available Daily – Fresh bread, Salad Bar, and lots of Fresh water, as well as a choice of natural yoghurt, or fresh fruit as an alternative to dessert

Allergy advice – All our food is prepared in a kitchen where any of the 14 Allergens may be present, and our menu descriptions do not include all ingredients. If you have an allergy, please let us know before ordering. Full allergen information is available from your school. Any fish we serve will vary depending on availability.

We only select fish from sustainable sources.

Suitable for vegetarians or vegetarian option available.

Our fish and chicken dishes may contain bones.

KEY:
V VEGETARIAN
VG VEGAN

EF EGG FREE
DF DAIRY FREE
GF GLUTEN FREE



OXFORDSHIRE
COUNTY COUNCIL



HERITAGE STEAM RAILWAY



- Steam train rides every Sunday (April-October)
- Visitor Centre with café, gift shop and play area
- 1km ride-on miniature railway
- Several model railway layouts
- Large railway museum
- Lots of Special Events through the year

www.bucksrailcentre.org

Bucks Railway Centre, Station Road, Quainton HP22 4BY